

Writing Standards Progression from Grade 7 to Grade 8

In grade 8, students write with increasing sophistication to present the relationships between ideas and information efficiently. Students are also expected to meet the grade-specific grammar and conventions standards and retain or further develop the skills and understandings mastered in preceding grades (refer to L.8.1-3).

Grade 7, Standard 1 (W.7.1)

Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

1. Introduce claim(s), acknowledge alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
2. Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
3. Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), reasons, and evidence.
4. Establish and maintain a formal style.
5. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.

Grade 7, Standard 2 (W.7.2)

Grade 8, Standard 1 (W.8.1)

Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

1. Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
2. Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
3. Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
4. Establish and maintain a formal style.
5. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.

Grade 8, Standard 2 (W.8.2)

Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

1. Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information, using strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/ contrast, and cause/effect; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
2. Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
3. Use appropriate transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
4. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
5. Establish and maintain a formal style.
6. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.

Grade 7, Standard 3 (W.7.3)

Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

1. Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.
2. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, and description, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
3. Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence and signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another.
4. Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events.
5. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.

Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

1. Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
2. Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
3. Use appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
4. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
5. Establish and maintain a formal style.
6. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.

Grade 8, Standard 3 (W.8.3)

Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

1. Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.
2. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, and reflection, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
3. Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence, signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another, and show the relationships among experiences and events.
4. Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events.
5. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.

Grade 7, Standard 4 (W.7.4)

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)

Grade 8, Standard 4 (W.8.4)

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)

Grade 7, Standard 5 (W.7.5)

With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1-3 up to and including grade 7 on page 52.)

Grade 8, Standard 5 (W.8.5)

With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1-3 up to and including grade 8 on page 52.)

Grade 7, Standard 6 (W.7.6)

Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and link to and cite sources as well as to interact and collaborate with others, including linking to and citing sources.

Grade 8, Standard 6 (W.8.6)

Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently as well as to interact and collaborate with others.

Grade 7, Standard 7 (W.7.7)

Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions for further research and investigation.

Grade 8, Standard 7 (W.8.7)

Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.

Grade 7, Standard 8 (W.7.8)

Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

Grade 8, Standard 8 (W.8.8)

Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

Grade 7, Standard 9 (W.7.9)**Grade 8, Standard 9 (W.8.9)**

Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

1. Apply *grade 7 Reading standards* to literature (e.g., ?Compare and contrast a fictional portrayal of a time, place, or character and a historical account of the same period as a means of understanding how authors of fiction use or alter history?).
2. Apply *grade 7 Reading standards* to literary nonfiction (e.g., ?Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims?).

Grade 7, Standard 10 (W.7.10)

Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

1. Apply *grade 8 Reading standards* to literature (e.g., ?Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new?).
2. Apply *grade 8 Reading standards* to literary nonfiction (e.g., ?Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced?).

Grade 8, Standard 10 (W.8.10)

Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

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